GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:727
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
COMPENSATION TO FARMERS
AKHILESH SINGH;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SUNIL KHAN;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE;VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Forces has acquired land of farmers along LoC and International Border for deployment of armed forces and laying land mines;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the per acre compensation paid to the farmers whose land have been acquired by the armed forces, State-wise;

(d) whether there is any dissatisfaction among the farmers regarding compensation paid to them;

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) the number of incidents of landmines blast occurred during the Operation Parakaram, place-wise;

(g) the loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof;

(h) the compensation paid to kin of deceased soldiers and civilians;
(i) whether precautions were not taken and mines were old and substandard quality having defective fuses; and
(j) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

(f) to (j): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 727 18.7.2002

The Defence Forces have not acquired any land of the farmers along the Line of Control (LOC) and International Border in connection with current mobilisation of the troops in the border areas. However, Armed Forces have temporarily occupied lands in the border areas for operational purposes in connection with current mobilisation of the troops in such areas. Ministry of Defence have already decided to pay ex-gratia compensation to the people/farmers for the damages occurred to their crops during the preparatory stage of defensive preparations/movement of Armed Forces in the border areas of the States of the J&K, Punjab, Rajasthan & Gujarat and pay rental compensation for the lands occupied. For this purpose, Board of Officers have been ordered by the Army Authorities to conduct joint surveys in association with the representatives of Director General of Defence Estates and Local Revenue Authorities to assess the damages occurred to the crops and the lands occupied by the Armed Forces. The details of lands under occupation of Armed Forces for the purpose and the damages occurred to the crops of the farmers would be known after the joint surveys are completed.

2. However, in order to give immediate relief to the farmers for the damages occurred to their crops, a sum of Rs. 36 crores, which is 25% of the amount projected by the State Revenue Authorities as loss towards the crops, has been sanctioned to the State Government of Punjab as `on account` payment to be made to the farmers. Out of this, about a sum of Rs. 21 crores has already been disbursed to the affected people/farmers. Another sum of Rs. 30 crores has also been sanctioned to the State Government of Punjab as compensation to the damages occurred to the crops, on the recommendations of Army HQrs.

3. A sum of Rs. 13.80 crores, which is 25% of the amount projected by the State Revenue Authorities as loss towards the crops, has been sanctioned to the State Government of Rajasthan as `on account` payment to be made to the individual farmers.Out of this, a sum of Rs. 10 crores (approximately) has been disbursed to the affected people/farmers. Similarly, a sum of Rs. 3.75 crores, which is 25% of the amount projected by HQ Northern Command as loss towards the crops, has been sanctioned to the State Government of

Jammu & Kashmir as `on account` payment to be made to the individual farmers.

4. The payment made to the people/farmers will be adjusted against the final bills to be submitted by the Board of Officers constituted for the purpose by the Local Military Authorities.

5. The compensation is being calculated on the recommendation of the State authorities. The Government is not aware of any dissatisfaction amongst the farmers.